



Reply to Attn of:

July 21, 2004

**TO:** Distribution

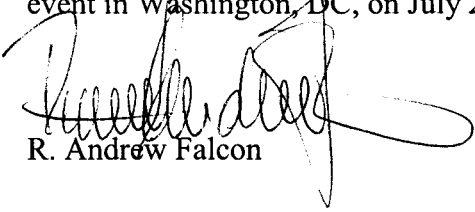
**FROM:** Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

**SUBJECT:** Blanket Determination Regarding Attendance at the Annual End of Session Seafood Feast, in Washington, DC on July 27, 2004

On July 27, 2004, Adams and Reese, LLP, will host an Annual End of Session Seafood Feast in Washington, DC. I have determined it to be in the best interest of the Government for those NASA employees who are invited to this event to attend in their official capacities and as representatives of NASA.

The event will be widely attended by members of Congress and their staff, clients of Adams and Reese, and other Federal agencies. The estimated cost of the dinner, which includes all food and beverages, is approximately \$70.00 per person. Approximately 200 individuals have been invited to attend. I find that this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR § 2635.204(g). The event celebrates the end of the current session of Congress and allows NASA employees to meet with members of Adams and Reese, members of Congress and representatives from other Federal agencies. I therefore conclude that NASA's interest in its employees attending this event outweighs any concern that free attendance may, or may appear to, improperly influence any NASA employees in the performance of their official duties.

Accordingly, NASA invitees and their spouses or guests may attend the Adams and Reese event in Washington, DC, on July 27, 2004, free charge.

  
R. Andrew Falcon